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## MAP NOTICES.

Since our last issue the U. S. Geological Survey has published ten sheets of the General Atlas of the United States. Among those are four from New York, all being in the Adirondack region. These are Bolton, which includes the northern part of Lake George, North Creek, Paradox Lake and Schroon Lake, the four sheets representing an area 30' square, between latitude 43.30 and 44.0, and longitude 73.30 and 74.0. These sheets are upon the scale 1:62,500.

In Nebraska is one sheet, Lincoln, representing the State capital and its surroundings, upon the scale 1:125,000.

In Colorado are three sheets, all on the scale 1:62,500, and representing areas in the San Juan mining region. They are Silverton and Telluride, in the north, and Laplata in the southwest.

In California are two sheets, on the scale 1:62,500. The Tamalpais sheet lies just north of the Golden Gate, and shows a portion of the Coast Ranges; and the Port Harford sheet, on the coast, is farther to the south.

A notable contribution to geography has been made in the publication of the atlas accompanying the report of the Venezuela Commission. Of the 76 maps contained therein 15, prepared on the same base, a map compiled from the best obtainable data, exhibit the historical and geographical data collected. The first of these assembles the various boundary lines proposed; the second, the wooded and treeless areas; a third, drainage areas; a fourth, geology; the fifth to the fifteenth, European occupation at different dates. The remaining 61 maps are fac-simile reproductions of old maps, 48 of which have been previously published, while the remaining 13 are from manuscripts. These are introduced to illustrate representations by Mr. Severo Mallet-Prevost, Secretary of the Commission, and by Prof. Geo. L. Burr. Among them are many of the greatest interest, particularly those obtained in manuscript at The Hague, by Professor Burr.

The atlas is published in sumptuous form, the engraving being by A. Hoen & Co., of Baltimore.

The report of the Red River Drainage Commission of Minnesota for the year 1886 contains a series of maps, on a scale of two miles to one inch, of the western portions of Marshall, Polk, Norman, Clay and Wilkins counties, comprising about 3,000 square miles of

the lower and more level portions of Red River Valley. They show the streams, section lines, railroads, and, most important of all, the elevation, to a tenth of a foot, of section and quarter section corners. From these data contours can be sketched with great accuracy.

From these maps one gains an idea of the extremely level surface of this valley, recently the bed of Lake Agassiz. From the south end of Wilkins County to the north boundary of Marshall, a distance of 170 miles, as the crow flies, the fall in Red River is but 170 feet, or, one foot per mile. In a direction at right angles to the river the slopes range from one to seven feet per mile. The lowest point in this area is 800 feet above sea, while the highest point does not reach 1,100 feet. There is probably no more level region of equal extent on earth than this valley of Red River.

H. G.